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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for must in all cases send stemps for that purpose.

Talk About Tariff Adjustment.

The President has not yet definitely challenged Congress to combat his belief that the adjustment of tariff rates is both needed and desired by the business interests of the country, but he tells some of his callers that the question has not been shelved; and there is now an intimation that he is disposed to focus the issue by summoning an extraordinary session of Congress in the spring. It is very doubtful, however, if Mr. Roose-VELT will go so far as to essay a distinct policy of coercion in his attitude toward Congress. Such a policy would suggest too strongly the old adage about leading the horse to water without the power to make him drink.

Another report is that he is "seriously considering the advisability of calling Congress together some time next summer, possibly about June 1"; but if he has such a purpose it is open to serious objections. The extra session should be of an earlier or of a later date. The Congress to be so assembled would include many new members little familiar either with the question to be considered or with the methods established for its consideration. The summer months are hot and trying in Washington, and a body drawn together against its wishes, under such conditions, would not be likely to strain itself to advance the plans of the President. If he desired to suppress the movement for a time, there might be no better way of doing it.

A wiser way would be to call an extraordinary session much earlier, even as early as April 1; or a commission of experts might be appointed at any time to consider such items as are most clearly open to adjustment and submit an advisory report to an extra session in the autumn or to the regular session next winter. A process of elimination would reduce to a co., paratively small number the items open to possibly advantageous adjustment, and a report on such items, made by men who have some knowledge of commercial matters, might be a valuable help to Congress.

Commercial interests shrink from tariff regulation partly through fear that their special lines may be adversely affected, but perhaps more largely because of doubt of the competence of those to whom the revision is committed. A board of recognized authorities appointed to make specific recommendations to Congress would probably receive more of their respect and confidence.

Farm and Factory.

comparative development of our agricultural and mechanical industries within the last generation stands as Value of Farm Value of Factory

Products.\$1,960,000,000 \$4,200,000,000 1904 (estimated) 5,900,000,000 15,000,000,000

Mechanical development has far outstripped agricultural progress. This result may be attributed to two special influences. Growth in the domain of agriculture is limited, broadly speaking, to a mere increase in quantity produced, and total value increases only along the line of increased bulk. Thus, the farm value of the 1,094,255,000 bushels of corn grown in 1870 is given as \$540,-520,456, while the 2,487,480,934 bushels of 1904 are valued at \$1,087,481,440. The bushel price in 1870 was 49.4 cents, and that of 1904 was 44.1 cents. A similar condition appears in our other staple agricultural products.

In the department of mechanical industries the case is quite different. While it is true that in 1870 there was no such thing as the dollar watch, which is now marketed in scores of thousands, it is also true that the demand for watches of a cost exceeding \$50 and the production of them have increased greatly. An endless variety of new appliances have been invented and manufactured, many of them costly, and coincidently there has been a great increase in the demand for articles of long established use, and also for articles of larger value Take, for example, railways and their equipment. Steel rails, giant engines and luxurious coaches supplant the equipdomain of agricultural production.

Trade and manufacture are now our means of appropriations from the na- domiciled and doing business in China states, as would enable our customs officers largely tional cash box. In his last message onder the operation of Chinese law, Mr. ROOSEVELT said that "the Depart- For some time there was great uncer- these gems into the United States. As it is now, the this work.

A recent application by the Secretary its power to maintain its national in- possible and desirable, inasmuch as our into his midst a double norm extra of mead

for the farmer might be done for the studies in that country. merchant, and both farmer and merchant would be the gainers.

Feet.

Does the Hon. ROBERT J. WYNNE appreciate with due gratitude what the versemakers are doing to increase the receipts of the Post Office Department? The men, women and children in the poetry business are using acres of stamps and stamped envelopes. This economic effect of the bloomin' lyre has been too little regarded, and the economic equivalent of songs and sonnets in beefsteak and bacon is set down in no treatise. Some illustrious producer, some VAN DYKE OF ELLA WHEELER WILCOX, may yet marry the Dismal Science to the Gay Science, amid the applause and wonder of the world.

"More poets yet!" sings Mr. Dobson; and we have reason to believe him. Forty or fifty copies of verse fly into this shop every day: quatrains, epigrams, sonnets, ballads, love songs, bits of comic genre, "limericks," narrative poems, didactic poems, "nature" poems star on star, who knows your names? "If available, please send check at usual rates." If not, "stamp" or "stamped envelope is enclosed." The choir of poets is singing for money, not for love or for delight in its voices. The volunteer is become or is trying to become a regular. That is right. If verse is worth printing, it is worth paying for. But the harvest is great, the poetry bin of the kindest newspaper exceeding for China of all this will not be felt for

Distribution: New England is no longer the centre of versification. Doubtless, she still can show more feet to the square foot, more poets to population, than any other region of the country, but the West and the South are sending us full lines of rhymed goods, and our Lady of the

Snows exports large quantities. in the cause of truth and justice we are not afraid to say that Pennsylvania seems to put less capital and energy than any of her sister States into this industry.

What sort of "stuff" is it, this verse that blazes on us with serried columns? Well, most of it seems to belong to the correspondence school of poetry. Apparently a singular illusion or delusion has spread over a wide area. Many worthy souls seem to imagine-and it is the sole spark of imagination some of them have—that verse has a high commercial value; also that anybody can write verse for which newspapers yearn like the hart for the water brooks.

In most of the multitude of "poems dumped upon us we look in vain not merely for originality and distinction. but for competent workmanship. It is always interesting to trace in the verse of young men and women of cultivation echoes and reflections of their reading. Reminiscences of KEATS, SHELLEY, SWINBURNE, the BROWNINGS, the Ros-SETTIS, KIPLING, conscious or unconscious imitations of this or that author. betray a course of study and show us the models which a young writer has followed. Most of our makers of serious verse seem never to have read poetry

of the first or even second order. Most of our daily grist is meant to be "humorous." Here there should be rich or tolerable comic force; or if only a slight comic force, the want of it should be made good by admirable mechanics of the verse. Most of our customers have neither humor nor artistic workmanship. They seem to follow some homely or trivial masters unknown to us. They emit commonplaces about children, old bachelors and so on. Their "limericks" have no grace, dexterity or surprise. Their "funny poems" pierce our venerable heart with memories of BAILEY of Danbury and other ancients. We don't expect to find a CALVERLEY or an

OWEN SEAMAN, but surely-Liberavimus animam nostram. We don't want to hurt anybody's feelings. We know that it does us good to read verses. They are profitable for patience, if not always for edification.

the good they do to the makers. This is, however, seldom material. If we wanted to get rich we should prefer to But their greatest use and value is

Reform in China Taught by Japan.

not appear, and is not possible, in the of the reform of the Chinese judiciary.

Among the causes of the deepest hudominant interests, and agriculture is the ex-territoriality which they have before we get them. On this subject their handmaiden, supporting them, been obliged to concede to the subjects our consular division of the Bureau of but also supported by them. The of foreign Powers in all questions of law, Statistics remarks: greater the number of busy mechanics while at the same time compelled to and clerks the greater the number of allow these same foreign subjects all mouths for the farmer to feed. To the the rights and privileges of Chinamen labors of the farmer the Government in the matter of land owning and com- only could we arrive at a fair estimate of the perhas lent an invaluable aid. It has fur- merce. At last, impressed by the dis- centage of the trade falling to the share of the nished him, gratis, selected and superior advantage of the situation, it has been United States, but we could make such a close estiseeds; it has analyzed his soil and told decided at Pekin to reform the judiciary him how to treat it in order to make it with a view to the suppression of the most productive, and in many ways has ex-territorial system and to bringing the quality and value of those experted from London to Amsterdam, Antwerp and Paris (for cutting and advanced his economic interests by subjects of all foreign Governments setting), and from all those marts to the United

ment of Agriculture has grown into an tainty as to the source to which they value is declared in South Africa and concealed educational institution, with a faculty should go for the material for a re- 10 Europe." of 2,000 specialists making research into formed judiciary. At first there was The diamond cutters and polishers all the sciences of production. The a strong inclination to adopt Western of the world number 9,400, of whom Congress appropriates, directly and in- methods and principles, but the re- 4,700 are in Amsterdam. Wages range directly, \$6,000,000 annually to carry on pugnance of the Chinese mind to many from \$6 to \$28 weekly. Our importation While all this is being done for the practice turned them to Japan. There in ten years from \$186,000 to \$0,184,000, farmer, very little is done in the way of they had the example of a country that a nearly fifty-fold increase. The United research into the sciences of distribu- had emancipated itself from foreign States imports three-fourths of the tion in the interest of our merchants tutelage and ex-territoriality, had es- world's cut diamond output. The transand manufacturers, now the more im- tablished its own judiciary, and in the ference of the industry of diamond cutportant branch of our national economy. | most convincing manner was exhibiting | ting and polishing to our own shores is

arrangements entered into, and in July, growing steadily in volume. chuen, and sixty-two from the two Hus, wearly. were sent to Japan by the Chinese Government. In the month of August as and Szechuen followed, and the stream has kept up so that there are now at Tokio more than six hundred Chinese law students preparing to form the future judiciary of China.

In the higher education the reorganhas been carried out by Japanese protaught are Japanese and English, particular attention being given to the former; and the Chinese professors, except for their Chinese classical studies, acquired all their learning in Japan. The few foreigners filling the chairs of matheliterally triumphed all along the line, nearly all the Chinese provinces, but notably those that have been longest in contact with Westerns, having systematically put aside European scientific and technical teachings and adopted the Japanese. Such has been the result of the European policy of treating the Chinese and China as a people and a country to be exploited, and of the wonderful success that has attended the Japanese since the beginning of their war with Russia.

Of course, the practical consequences

years yet, but they are sure to be important. The eviction of the West, with the memories of its opium wars, its militant missionary enterprises, and the impositions of all kinds on a defenceless people, has at last begun; and unless those European nations that have fastened themselves on the vital points of China and burdened it with indemnities and debt have the wisdom to recognize ulating social prejudice left. Some people have facts in formation, their exit from little beside prejudice in their mental equipment. facts in formation, their exit from China as dominating powers may be accompanied by circumstances unfavorable to friendly relations. What some light and reason. This, too, will come, and in the meantment of disadvantage to those who hug this able to friendly relations. What some call Pan-Mongolianism is on the way to becoming a determining factor in the political and commercial future of eastern Asia; and, with its developing scientific intellectuality and military and navel power, it is establishing a new world force, which Europe in its present condition has good reason to A Pica for the Celebration of Mckinley Day. take into serious consideration.

Our Great Imports of Diamonds. South Africa overshadows all other

countries as the leading diamond producing country of the world. All the strange to say, British official publica- served by tions of imports generally do not list diamonds among the imports from priate to this memorial South Africa. The only evidences of such imports are the attestations of the customs officers of the Cape of Good

such imports are the attestations of the customs officers of the Cape of Good

priate to this memorial.

The beautiful Christian spirit which pervaded the private life of William McKinley, and marked his death, makes such an observance of the day as is proposed for Sunday, Jan. 72, 1905, pecultarity Hope. These attestations show that in 1903 the importations were of 2,656,587

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wanted to get rich we should prefer to lay the foundations of a fortune by picking up pins in the street, after the manner of Mr. Girard, rather than to keep a versesmith's shop.

The trade conducted in an underground the trade conducted in an underground way, concealed from all public scrutiny, but it seems also to be managed independently of all custom houses intervening between Cape Colony and the trade conducted in an underground states, all would heartly acquisece in the happy solution of a problem which has caused so many centuries of heartburdings.

States, all would heartly acquisece in the happy solution of a problem which has caused so many centuries of heartburdings.

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The trade conducted in an underground way, concealed from all public scrutiny, but it seems also to be managed independently of all custom houses intervening between Cape Colony and the United States. United States.

The statistics which we have given show that the United States in 1903 The influence of the Japanese over imported more diamonds than the total China is not less important in civil than | diamond exports from the Cape Colony ment of 1870. This marked development | it is in military matters. An example is to London. Of this, \$15,574,398 worth in quality as well as in quantity does the way in which they have taken ho'd were cut diamonds, the remainder, \$10,933,188, diamonds in the rough.

Allowance has to be made for the profmiliation to the Chinese Government is its of the various handlings of the gems

" If this diamond trade, from the time the gems leave Africa until they pass through the American customs, were conducted in an open manner, not mate of the number, quality and value of the diamonds when received in London, and the number. to put a stop to the surreptitious introduction

of the cardinal points of Western law and of diamonds from Amsterdam has grown

of Commerce and Labor for so small an | tegrity and independence. The result | imports of uncut diamonds have grown appropriation as \$100,000, to be expended | was that after a long series of confer- from \$2,517,759 in 1898 to \$6,154,883 in in obtaining information of use and bene- ences between the Chinese Minister at 1902 and \$10,933,188 in 1903. In the last fit to American merchants and manu- Tokio and the head of the faculty of law mentioned year we also imported \$15,facturers, was refused by Congress. at the Imperial University, concerning 574,398 of cut diamonds, against \$12,732,-This group is largely left to its own de- the teaching of law in China, the Pekin 670 in 1902. If we were cutting and polvices, to hoe its own row. The possi- Government found that while it was ishing diamonds for our own use, the in Uncle Sam's monopoly. In order to bilities which lie in a department of impossible to get the required professors import of cut stones would diminish and commerce actively employed as a con- from Japan it might accomplish the that of uncut increase, leaving more structive force in American export trade | purpose by sending a large number of | wages to be disbursed among ourselves. are endless. That which is now done students from China to carry on their Already the cutting and polishing industries in this country are increasing, and No time was lost in carrying out the the importations of rough stones are

> last eighteen students from the province | In addition, our imports of other preof Kwantung, eighty-three from Sze- cious stones are averaging about \$5,000,000

> The Hon. OSCAR S. STRAUS discusses in many more from the provinces of Fokien | the Jewish Comment of Baltimore the question of Jewish colonization in East Africa on the large territory offered by Great Britain for that purpose. Before expressing a confident opinion on it he awaits the report of a commission to examine the territory and investigate its adaptation to successful and prosperous colonization. Even ization of the Chinese provincial colleges | if this commission's report is favorable, and its judgment deserves respect, Mr. STRAUS fessors. The only foreign languages says very sensibly that the fitness of the Jews in Russia and Rumania for such colonization and their desire for it are questions to be settled before any decided opinion on the subject can properly be expressed. The half million and more of them who have immigrated to the United States during the last fifteen years, at the cost of much sacrimatics or chemistry in the Chinese col- fice in tearing away from their old home leges are Japanese. The Japanese have | ties, he takes as sufficient evidence that they are "made of the stuff" to become useful colonists. If there were several countries besides the United States to which oppressed Jews could immigrate with happy results the specific project of colonization in a country so far away as East Africa, Mr. STRAUS thinks, would not be needed; but there being no such sufficient outlet, he would welcome the British offer of territory, provided the conditions there are found

to be favorable. That is, the colonization scheme is a practical rather than a sentimental matter Jewish colony in East Africa will not be built up considerably unless colonists are invited by positive advantages. The experience of the Jewish immigrants to this untry has been that here they have unrestricted opportunities of advancement, and consequently they have come hither during the last fifteen years in great numbers. Speaking of the matter of the anti-Semitic judice which they still encounter, Mr. STRAUS concludes his paper by saying losophically:

" It matters little if there be a remnant of stimprejudice is greater than to the Jews whom they may disifke because they are Jews."

That there is truth in this will be acknowledged even by people who have the race prejudice of which Mr. STRAUS speaks: but the Jews themselves are getting along too well to be troubled by it.

To the English of THE SUN-Sir: Jan. 29, 1905, the angiversary of the birth of the late President William McKinley, is approaching, and it falls upon "Carnation Day" is already recognized as being

upon the nation's calendar, and there is a fine op-portunity this year to bring out the patriotic feat-It is suggested by the trustees of the Carnaoutput is shipped to London, yet, tion League of America that the day be obstrange to say, British official publicareligious and patriotic organizations, by st a portion of their services on that day appro-

appropriate from the viewpoint of the pulpit and

Parisian dealers and manipulators, who make millions yearly out of that prosperity which enables Americans to become the final purchasers of more diamonds than any other nation.

If it were not that Great Britain feared that if complete separation were granted Ireland might fail a prey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some some the final purchasers of more seems to me easy of solution. Let Great Britain the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties aprey to some some the final purchasers of more seems to me easy of solution. Let Great Britain priation at the time ways to begin:

This beliar the case, the heretofore vexted question seems to me easy of solution. Let Great Britain priation at the time ways to begin:

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The plete separation were granted Ireland might fail a prey to some powerful and hostile nation, the ties appeared to the set of the case, the heretofore vexted question seems to me easy of solution. Let Great Britain printer and the case, the heretofore vexted question seems to me easy of solution. Let Great Britain printer and the case, the heretofore vexted question the case, the heretofore vexted question to the case of the case, the heretofore vexted question are case of the case, the heretofore vexted question are case of the case, the heretofore vexted question

furthermore, no Power, however strong or hostile, suld attempt to wrest her from the union of Amer-

With the Irish question solved in a satisfactory manner to all concerned, nothing then would be in the way of an alliance between the United States and Great Britain, and such an alliance, as you auggest, would result in each country's saving many millions annually in naval expenditures. With the two countries acting in concert, no ex-Isting coalition of sea power could prevail against the navies of Great Britain and the United States. EDWARD NICOLL TOWNSEND,

HEMPSTEAD, Jan. 5.

To the Editor of the Sun-Sir: Your editorial of last Monday on the claims of the life savers to a pension is greatly appreciated by them. They are as harole a body of men as draw breath, and their duties have been greatly increased recently. These noble men have wives and families. If in the course of the performance of duty one should lose his life his wife and children would be thrown upon the sympathy and charity of friends. In my parish are a number of men who gave their my parish are a number of the same and hest years to the service. They are feeble and unable to earn very much. Advocate their cause and you will confer a blessing on good and brave men.

J. T. LANGLOIS. en. Pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church

A View From Oneida County TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Odell must be

put out of the State chairmanship sooner or later, and the sooner the better. Higgins a appointment of ranghot cuts the foundation from under Oden's A REPUIN Lost in Boston.

From the Pasion Hersid.

Has anybody found a pair of striped pants?
They are sought for in our lost and found column. Thor's Triumph.

Ther had just given his name to a weekday.
"Yes," chuckled the god, "I took the most important one in the bunch. Thursday will always be the cook's afternoon out." Feeling that he had distanced Woden, he poured

DESTROYING MINT DIES. Present Process Is Different From That

Formerly Employed. On the last working day of the calendar year an important and interesting event occurs at each of the three coin factories render assurance doubly sure, says the San Francisco Chronicle, the dies used in the coining operations are defaced with the utmost care and rendered utterly valueless from the standpoint of those gentry whose proclivities lead them to establish, from time to time, various private money making enterprises which enter into competition with the more finished production of the Government's coining presses.

The regulations governing the mint and assay service require that on the last day of each calendar year these dies shall have their engraved surfaces defaced in the presence of the coiner, the assayer and the foreman of the pressroom. This operation is one of the most important in the year's work, and consequently great stress is laid upon it by the officials of the mint.

This year a new departure is to be made at the San Francisco Mint in the obliteration of these engravings which is regarded as being more effective than the time honored custom, in which the dies were placed face upward upon an anvil, where by means of a cold chisel and sledge hammer the blacksmith sunk a cross-mark into the face of the design. Now the engravings will be ground to nothingness on an emery wheel.

Heretofore these defaced dies were discarded and were given away as souvenirs of the Mint. Possibly several hundred of these still linger upon the desks of various business offices in and about San Francisco. where in their old age they serve to some purpose as paperweights. In size these are from two to three inches in length and of a diameter approximating that of the coins which were struck from them, the periphery of each cylinder being slightly less than that of the piece of money.

Recently the Secret Service agents were puzzled by the appearance in circulation of a counterfeit dollar, the surfaces of which obversely and reversely were almost without a flaw. The records of the Mint Bureau showed conclusively that all the dies in use at the Mint in question had been properly defaced in the presence of the required witnesses; yet these "queer" dollars continued to pour forth in a de-

basing flood into the currency. At length a successful raid was made upon a counterfeiting plant, and the obverse and reverse dies which were discovered among the paraphernalia proved to be of the regular United States Mint pattern. An examination with a magnifying glass revealed the interesting evidence that cross marks which had been stamped upon their surfaces had been deftly filled and smoothed over, so that the dies became apparently as good as new. This discovery apparently as good as its led to the new regulation that all dies should have their engravings completely removed and the hubs, or stems, of the same be sent to and the hubs, or stems, of the same besent to the Director of the Mint at the end of each

uring this year, as dies became worn out, they were promptly placed against the surface of an emery wheel, and inside of one minute this powerful abrasive had removed the last vestige of the design. The remainder of several hundred dies h were used during the present year on the 31st of December, be polished in like manner in the presence of the usual

witnesses.

One of the most important positions in the mint and assay service is that of the engraver of dies at Philadelphia. With a force of expert engravers, who receive high wages for their services, the work of designing the dies is there conducted. Impressions are first made in wax, and owing to the fact that each workern is an expert the fact that each workman is an expert the most perfect dies in the world are turned out at this place. The tempering of the dies and the rehardening of the steel require great skill, as the life of the dies is

lengthened by more complete tempering.

A fine blue color is required.

A standard United States die should make from 50.000 to 150.000 impressions appropriate from the viewpoint of the pulpit and the press.

If I were to pronounce a creed for the Carnation of the San Francisco Mints having made the pression. It is of interest to note that in the future greatness of my country can best be assured by a growth of good citizenship of coins stamped by each die is less than need by regulations in 1892—forty-two years ago-

To THE EIRCIENCY OF THE NAY.

To THE EIRCIENCY OF THE SUN—Sir: If it is really desired to practice economy without impairing the efficiency of the navy. I can suggest offnand three ways to begin:

1. Send to the scrap heap the Buffalo. Dixie, Prairie. Vankee and Yesemite. These ridiculous tubs were purchased out of the \$50,000,000 appropriation at the time of the Spanish way in a frantic effort to make up for our iddicate lack of preparation.

The Libricancy of the Axy.

from pests, not of their own choice or volition, but because they are as assigned by orders under the existences of the service. They have struggled along uncomplainingly under the present injustice for many years, but now the burden has become too hard for most of them to bear. Rents have greatly increased everywhere, and they are no longer able to live respectably on the Government allowance.

ABMY. effort to make up for our idiotic lack of preparation preceding it. Never warships at any period of their existence, they are even more useless now, if

possible, than they were then and totally unfit to be on the navy fist.

2. Lay up "in ordinary" the monitors Amphilitite, Miantonomoh, Menadnock, Puritan, Terror, Monterey, Arkansas. Florida and Nevada. The first five were laid down about forty years ago, the last four were presented to a grateful nation by Congress thirty years after every European Power had dis-

deckers, and in a war with any naval Power they would stand as much chance against the armored cruisers sent to snap them up as a canary bird would stand against a chicken hawk. Yet all these ships which I have mentioned annually eat up mil-lions of dollars in repairs, supplies, coal, &c. The power of our navy is limited—too limited—

by what we are willing to pay for it. the money which we spend upon warships should all be expended upon ships fit for war—battieships. liers and a few small gunboats for police duty in time of peace. CAMDEN, S. C., Jan. 3.

From an Admirer of Senator Brackett. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If I mistake not, the frank and fearless position of Senetor Brackett will meet the approval of the rank and file of Re-

publicans throughout the country.

It is refreshing to have such a broadside from such a man. Having known Mr. Brackett long since he was a clever, round faced college boy, I can see how impossible it is for him to brook the man who goes back on his word of honor.

If Governor Higgins keeps his piedges, which I expect, there may come an era of manly debate and free action in political matters that will meet the approval of patriots generally and advance estantial interests of the Stat

Masculine Tact. He-Would you rather be pretty or witty?

The Light's on the Way

The light's on the way!

From the Atlanta Constitution No matter the shadows
That dim the bright day.
The rainbow's in heaven—

Though weary the winter.
Love dreams of the May:
The rose rims the garden
The light's on the way!

EXPORTATION OF OUR SURPLUS. Reply by an Importer to an Argument

That It Is No Help for Overproduction. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: AS sing to have learned something about imports and exports during more than twenty-five years trading with and from the American market, I must dissent from the position taken by Mr. William G. Lightbown in THE SUN of Saturday last:

It stands to reason that foreign markets can never cure overproduction. The goods we export are not given away; they are exchanged for others and if we merely exchange products, it is plain that the problem of overproduction is unsolved. Amerlean made goods sent abroad bring us foreign made goods in return.

On this principle our whole interstate com merce is on a false basis. What is the distribution over the country of the natural means of selling a local production which is in excess of local consumption? If this system works locally in this country, why should it not likewise be applicable to exports as a safety valve for our national in-

According to Mr. Lightbown's theory, w ought not to export any manufactures. If so, the \$400,000,000 worth we are now shipping every year would either not have been produced at all or any part produced in order duced at all or any part produced in order to arrive at a sufficiently low cost would have weighed on our home markets and would have depreciated values in the same way as if New England were restricted to its local trade for the sale of its products.

If our export trade ceased, where would Mr. Lightbown's proposed 15 per cent. advance in wages come from? He suggests an extra dollar a week increase on a present average of \$340 a year. If less goods are made, how is even the present standard to be maintained?

In a later paragraph Mr. Lightbown says

maintained?
In a later paragraph Mr. Lightbown says that "a legitimate exchange of things of which we have too much for things we lack constitutes a healthy state of trade."
What is the development of foreign markets but one side of this "legitimate exchange"?
Although at present there is not a very serious difference between the amount of manufactures imported and exported, the tendency is for exporis to increase and for imports to s for exports to increase and for imports to

The articles imported are, as a rule, not ported, and there is no connection between Mr. Lightbown does not explain why such arr. Lightpown does not explain way duca overproduction as exists is to be absorbed in this country, nor does he grasp the point that, after a profit has been realized upon home trade business (upon which a factory works to, say, two-thirds of its expactly), the cost price of its supplementary production is practically less than that of its regular output. There is economy in the pur-

tion is practically less than that of its regular output. There is economy in the purchase of raw materials in larger quantities, and the additional product does not appreciably increase general expenses, costing, as a rule, less for distribution. Export trade is largely done by correspondence and by agents on a small commission. Expensive drummers are not required, nor costly branches for distribution. As a rule, it costs foreign manufacturers less to distribute their products than it does our makers. One large American textile manufacturer, who ad-

for distribution. As a rule, it costs foreign manufacturers less to distribute their products than it does our makers. One large American textile manufacturer, who advertises in this country largely, told me that he could afford to sell, if necessary, to foreign countries at a reduction of from 20 to 25 per cent, on the prices he sets in this country.

Again, the drawback of duty on imported materials worked up here and reexported helps our manufacturers to compete in foreign countries. One Philadelphia house is now executing an order for iron pipes to go abroad, out of imported iron, which, after the return of the duty on the same, costs, after paying freight, less than the domestic price of a similar quality. It may be that some foreign countries, even with a large export trade, are less prosperous than we are. This is no proof that export trade is an evil, but rather succests the question, "Where would they be without their export trade?"

Exporters do not trouble themselves about the balance of trade; and it generally happens that when the same house is conducting both branches its imports are of ray materials and not of manufactured imports as largely of articles of luxury and fashion which criginate abroad. Our exports of staple manufactured goods have practically but little connection with our imports and do not "bring us foreign goods in return," as Mr. Lightbown supposes.

Any attempt to restrict our growing for-

bown supposes.

Any attempt to restrict our growing foreign commerce is retrogressive and unAmerican. Your Washington correspondent
is right in his arguments.

New York, Jan. 5.

IMPORTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Whenever officers of the army are on duty in cities or at other points where no Government quarters are provided for them, they receive what is called "commutation of quarters." an allowance which is supposed to pay for the rent of such houses as they require. and graded according to their rank. Under the present alloument a Second Lieutenant is cultied to commutation for two rooms, a Captain for three | and Col. Bryan.

The Unperdenable bin in Winter.

TO THE FIRSTON OF THE SCN-Sir: If you look out of your window during this sleet storm you sildes on the concrete payement in front of the skinned, soft crab like City Hall. This "fun" prevails all over. It provides plenty of laughter, also broken limbs, delayed or ruined business, personal hundilation for the victims.

What the dickens are we coming to? Americans

anded the type as worthless.

3. Discontinue building protected cruisers of the Baitimore. Newark. Olympia. Charleston. Denver, &c. class. With neither the force to fight nor the speed to escape, these cruisers are about as obsolete as the Roman triremes or Neison's three-decvers, and in a war with any naval Power these cruisers are about as obsolete as the Roman triremes or Neison's three-decvers, and in a war with any naval Power these cruisers are about as obsolete as the Roman triremes or Neison's three-decvers, and in a war with any naval Power these cruisers. auto corpse making, rude practical jokes, likely to foster courage? Must we go to the Japs to-day to learn manly virtues? We claim that our Perry gave them the arst chance to open their eyes to modern civilization. Modern civilization of the up to date variety seems more distinctly barbarous than anything found outside of canalbal tribes

since the Middle Ages. In England maiding a slide on a sldewalk is the unpardonable sin and is very severely punished. don't believe George Washington or any Jap who ever fived ever played a practical joke. S beastly idlocy should be confined to clowns in RED TEFFOIL NEW YORK, Jan. 3.

Cheaper Electricity.

Coal has had its day, not because it is not a cheap and satisfactory fuel, but because the stram ea-gine is about to undergo a great revolution in conning of a series of vast changes in the economy of electric power houses, which must lead to the production of electricity for the public at prices the humblest of names can pay,

Marriage Prohibited in Corea.

From the Tokio Azahi.
Owing to the demise of the Corean Crown Princess, pending the definite appointment of a new consort for the Crown Prince the Cerean people in general are prohibited by law from marrying. In view of the different factions in the Corcan Court. the selection of the new consort will probably not

Entertainment in the Berkshires. From the Pilisheld Journal. The North Adams man's idea of showing a girl a good time is letting her look at his Waterbury.

He Tried to Get Even. Guy Fawkes had tried to blow up the Houses of

POLITICAL NOTES.

There are 36 Republicans and 14 Democrats in the Senate at Albany and in the Assembly there are 104 Republicans and 48 Democrats, giving the Republicans 22 major ty in the Senate and 58 majority in the Assembly. On joint ballot the Republicans

have 140 votes and the Democrats 60. It is stated that a bill is to be introduced at Albany providing for the taxation of dogs. One half of the revenue will go to the State and the other half to the locality where the dog is owned. It is estimated that there are about 500,000 dogs in the State, and with a tax of about \$2 each this will raise a million

The total vote for President in the late election was 13,508,490. This was 460,078 less than the vote in 1900, notwithstanding an estimated increase of nearly 7,000,000 in opulation and of 1,400,000 in eligible voters. What should the total vote have been in November had the interest of citizens in the result been profound and their prefer

nce between the candidates sharply defined? The fullest vote in proportion to population ever cast in a Presidential election was in 1896, when the ratio was 1 to 5. By this ratio the vote in November would ave been 16,600,000. The vote actually

polled was 3,092,000 short of this. President Roosevelt has already assumed a number of big contracts in undertaking to bring about tariff revision, the regulation of railroad rates, national license for cor-porations and Federal control of insurance

There is to be no election for State officers in New York this year.

Vice-President-elect Fairbanks of Indiana has not resigned his seat in the United States Senute.

On election day in New York city Democrats were "induced" in the Ninth and other Assembly districts while in the polling booths to put the cross mark in the circle and to cut out the star (the emblen of th) Democratic party) at the top of the ballet, returning the star to those who "ladueed them to do so as a guarantee of good faith. By such "inducements" thousands of Democratic ballots were void because of the mutita-tion. Yet the stupid Democrats had satisfied their "consciences" that they had voted the Democratic ticket all right and got a little something for doing so at the same time.

President Roosevelt is in the same boat with President Lincoln when he refers to his Confederate relatives and says:

"Personally, I had kinsmen on both sides. Two of my mother's brothers fought in the Confederate service—one, by the way, served on the Alabama under Admiral Semmes, the father of the wife of that gallant ex-Confederate, Luke Wright, whom I have nade Governor of the Philippines. but the other day that I designated the only ing grandson of Stonewall Jackson a cadet at West Point, and I have just made Jeb Stuart,

District of Virginia. Louis F. Payn says he likes to think of the days when he owned a newspaper and "pep-pered the other fellow." Platt, Hill and and usually had a pot of vitriol handy.

Alton B. Parker tells his friends that the Southern Democrats have become altogether too prosperous, and the Southern States too much the centres of substantial business concerns to consent again to turning the Democratic party over to William J. Bryan and the radicals.

Several years ago John L. Suilivan was warmly welcomed at the White House, and now it is said that President Roosevelt is to receive Bob Fitzsimmons on his next visit Washington. The President's friends say that he was delighted to receive on election night a congratulatory despatch from Tom O'Rourke, the New York sporting man.

handling the mittens himself. William J. Bryan was interrupted the other day at Omaha during a quick lunch and nar rowly escaped missing his train. He jumped pie. Parenthetically, the two biggest eaters in the nation are said to be John L. Sullivan

Lecturer of the Olden Times.

From the Atlantic Monthly

16 Legs of passames a creat for the Carta, cartas, of a value of \$2,69,537

Garatas, of a value of \$2,69,537

Garatas is the import of diamonds by the United States, few of the gens come to us direct, and therefore it has been recomed to us direct, and therefore it has been recomed to us direct, and therefore it has been been professed and that good clientality and it is required that the molecular conditions of our country, and that good clientality and the poper. And that good clientality and the poper and the poper and that good clientality and the poper and that good clientality and the poper and

Orientals Don't Use Hooks and Fyes.

From the Philadelphia Record. "The hook and eye is one product of civilization that Criental races cannot be educated up to," said a manufacturer who was discussing export trade. "Our firm made strenucussing export trade. "Our firm made strenuous efforts to popularize hooks and eyes in
thins, Japan and India; but we had to admit
defeat and retire from the field.

"We sell hooks and eyes all over the world,
even to the Esquimaux; but the Orientals
don't take to them. This is partly due to
the mode of dress prevalent in the Far East.
Garments are cut to conform to the figure,
of soft, clinging materials, and after the attire
has been adjusted it is held in place by a
sash twined around the waist. Unlike our
fashions, there practically has been no change
in the national costumes of China and Japan
la, centuries. The nearest approach to the
hook and eye in use there is a sort of garment
fastener resembling the frogs on a military
greatcoat, and even its use is not general."

Frugal Minded Chinaman.

From the London Daily Mail.

An amusing trait of the Chinese character s pointed out in the last report of the British Consul at Foochow.

A British company started a match factory A British company started a match factory to compete against the Japanese. It seemed to prosper, and then stopped.

All the Consell drilly remarks is: "It would be well, however, if they bore in mind that the Chinaman not only counts the number of matches in a box, but also takes into consideration the number of those that break in striking or fall to ignile, these being the complaints brought against the matches hitherto turned out by the company."

From the Poughkeepste News-Press.
Raising money for the State from dogs will be one of the revenue propositions submitted for the consideration of the statesmen who gather in Alconsideration of the statement who games in Ap-bany next week for, the winter session. The idea will be embodled in a bill providing that all dors, high, low and cross brad, black and yellow, shall be taxed \$1.50 or \$2 for the privilege of exist-ing. The revenue shall be divided equally be-tween the State and the locality collecting it. This scheme to increase the canine tax burden will have the diguined support of the State Department of Agriculture. The revenue, it is estimated, will come close to \$500,000 a year. With this sum Department officials believe that good can be done in the way of promoting agricultural pursuits and or saling farmers.

of alding farmers. Most localities already have a dog tax ordinance

The tax varies—in some places it is 75 cents and in other places \$1. If the State undertakes to tax dogs the tax will be uniform and every locality rilament.

"The janitor wouldn't give any heat," he said in sproposed that the tax shall be collected entirely by the locality, which shall also see to the enforce Yet the English sacrificed the noble martyr. | ment of the law.